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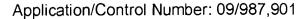


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APPLICATION NO.	F	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/987,901		11/16/2001	Yasunori Toda	011543	7804
23850	7590	07/10/2003			
ARMSTRO	ONG,WE	STERMAN & HA	EXAMINER		
1725 K STREET, NW SUITE 1000				HARMON, CHRISTOPHER R	
WASHING	WASHINGTON, DC 20006			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
				3721	
				DATE MAILED: 07/10/2003	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
•	09/987,901	TODA, YASUNORI
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit
	Christopher R Harmon	3721
The MAILING DATE of this communication a	ppears on the cover sheet wit	h the correspondence address
Period for Reply	VIVIO OFT TO EVENE A MO	ONITH (O) EDOM
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REP THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a re - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory perio - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statu - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mail earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status	I. 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a re- peply within the statutory minimum of thirty d will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONT tte, cause the application to become ABA	ply be timely filed (30) days will be considered timely. "HS from the mailing date of this communication. NDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04	<u> June 2003</u> .	
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL . 2b) ☑ 1	This action is non-final.	
3) Since this application is in condition for allow closed in accordance with the practice under		
Disposition of Claims	•	
4) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application		
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdr	awn nom consideration.	
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.		
6) Claim(s) <u>1-6</u> is/are rejected.		
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.	/or election requirement	
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and Application Papers	or election requirement.	
9) The specification is objected to by the Examir	ner.	
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) acc		ie Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to	the drawing(s) be held in abeyar	nce. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on	is: a)□ approved b)□ di	sapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in r	reply to this Office action.	
12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the E	Examiner.	
Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120		
13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign	gn priority under 35 U.S.C. §	119(a)-(d) or (f).
a)⊠ All b)□ Some * c)□ None of:		
1. Certified copies of the priority docume	nts have been received.	
2. Certified copies of the priority docume	nts have been received in Ap	oplication No
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the pri application from the International E * See the attached detailed Office action for a list 	Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	
14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domes	stic priority under 35 U.S.C. §	§ 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language p 15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for dome 		
Attachment(s)		
Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s)	5) Notice of In	iummary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) Iformal Patent Application (PTO-152)
5. Patent and Trademark Office FO-326 (Rev. 04-01) Office A	Action Summary	Part of Paper No. 6



Art Unit: 3721

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 2. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muller et al. (US 4,597,752) in view of Martin et al. (US 5,062,597).

Muller et al. disclose a continuous folding device comprising arm 102 which guides paper 4 in an accordion fashion upon a platform; see figure 1. Arm 102 further comprises telescopic members 26 (main arm body) and 27 (sub arm body) for varying the length of the guiding member. Arm 102 is controlled with motor 18.

Muller et al. does not directly disclose horizontal or swinging of arm 102, however Martin et al. teach folding by swing arm 11. Furthermore, the table of Muller et al. does not move vertically nor has a detection mechanism for controlling vertical movement. However Martin et al. describe a vertically controlled table 47; see figure 1. Sensors 40 detect proper positioning of the stacked paper and control raising and lowering of the table according to preset values; see column 5, lines 55-68.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teachings of Martin et al. in the invention of Muller et al. in order to manipulate the folds and the stacks.

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Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher R Harmon whose telephone number is 703-308-8643. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi Rada can be reached on 703-308-2187. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9302 for regular communications and 703-872-9303 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1148.

ch July 3, 2003

EUGENE KIM